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VOL. 8, No. 27

10 PAGES

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24, 2021

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HUMCO COVID COUNT	TESTS	CASES	RECOVERED	HOSPITALIZED	DEATHS	VAX DOSES	PARTLY VAXXED	FULLY
	78,531	3,419	3,284	135	35	43,142	8.26%	12.02%
Monday, March 22: RED TIER: Substantial risk – some non-essential indoor business operations are closed								

Giant Bottoms grow sparks fierce dislike

Kevin L. Hoover
MAD RIVER UNION

ARCATA BOTTOM – It was as though two vastly different projects were under discussion last week during the Humboldt County Planning Commission's consideration of its final agenda item last week.

One project was a smart, well-regulated and scrupulously managed agricultural enterprise that would help support a major local employer, make large contributions to the tax base, stimulate the cannabis economy and have little impact on areas around the already industrialized property where it would be sited.

The other project was a gross industrial intrusion into ag land causing far-ranging environmental damage, spewing pesticides, generating noise, consuming inordinate water and energy resources, increasing crime, intensifying traffic, destroying the quality of life for neighboring residents while corporatizing Humboldt's cannabis industry and disenfranchising independent growers.

In fact, they were the same agenda item – the Arcata Land Company's proposed Conditional Use Permit for a 22.9-acre cannabis cultivation operation on Sun Valley Floral Farms' property on the Arcata Bottom.

MEGA-GROW ❖ PAGE 6

Supes resolve Blue Lake cannabis farm conundrum

Daniel Mintz
MAD RIVER UNION

BLUE LAKE – What one Humboldt County supervisor described as a "painful process" has been resolved as county planners will work with Blue Lake cannabis farm operators to find an alternate site.

At its March 16 meeting, the Board of Supervisors took up an appeal of the Planning Commission's permit denial of a 10,000 square-foot cannabis grow in the Blue Lake community plan area.

The board appeal hearing was the second for the modestly-sized cannabis farm, which is located at the

end of the narrow and isolated Warren Creek Road.

Last summer, supervisors asked that the farm's owners, Rocci and Laura Costa, meet with neighbors who had complained about public safety issues related to the farm property.

Planning staff came to the hearing with a seemingly agreed-upon solution – the Costas would move their farm under the county's Retirement, Remediation and Relocation (RRR) program. Under those rules, the Costas would move to a different site and be allowed twice the cultivation area.

BLUE LAKE ❖ PAGE 6

Rate drop lags, cases plateau, more doses arrive

Daniel Mintz
MAD RIVER UNION

HUMBOLDT – As the state tells counties to submit vaccination expansion plans, Humboldt has been described as a county whose COVID-19 testing positivity rate is "lagging" others.

A renowned infectious disease specialist commented on Humboldt's situation during a March 18 "coronavirus response" town hall forum hosted by Senator Mike McGuire.

The region-wide forum's panel included Dr. Timothy Brewer of the Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, who reported that California's COVID-19 testing positivity rate has dropped to two percent. "So we're doing much better than we were two short months ago," he said.

"That having been said, in the northern counties, like Humboldt

County, you're running at about 2.9 percent and Sonoma's at about 2.4 percent positivity," he continued. "So while you're better off than where you were in January, you are lagging a little bit behind the rest of the state – so we still need to be aware that coronavirus is in our community."

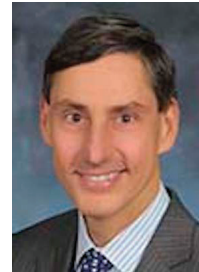
In a media availability video on the day of the forum, Dr. Ian Hoffman, Humboldt's health officer, said the county was "just below the threshold" of moving into a more restrictive COVID-19 risk tier the previous week.

Although he had expressed "cautious optimism" during an update to the Board of Supervisors that week, he acknowledged during the video

that case counts, while dipping from a winter surge, "Haven't continued to come down – we've plateaued."

Coronavirus variants are emerging and two in California – including one that's ramping up in Humboldt, have been added to the U.S. Center for Disease Control's list of Variants of Concern or those that have worrisome mutations.

More doses on the way



Dr. Timothy Brewer

Starting the town hall, McGuire announced that "longer term, the outlook for vaccines looks incredibly promising – I say that as a person who believes in under-promising and over-delivering."

He said the federal government is

COVID ❖ PAGE 4

LAFCo reduces annexation to Arcata's original request

Kevin L. Hoover
MAD RIVER UNION

ARCATA – The Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo) last week reconsidered its controversial January 20 decision to annex not just the land needed for Danco's Creek Side Homes subdivision and Ennes Park on the Arcata Bottom, but five additional parcels.

After hearing from the appellant, property co-owner Sean Armstrong, other property owners located within the additional annexation plus land use activists, LAFCo's commissioners rescinded the expanded annexation, shrinking it from 76.7 acres back to the 21.6 acres requested by the City of Arcata.

The property owners and others had objected on grounds that they hadn't been properly noticed or consulted prior to the annexation. The City of Arcata and others held that bringing the additional agricultural land within city limits put it at higher risk of eventual development. Were it to stay in the county, the city could easily withhold utility services, rendering development impossible.

Portia Bramble, executive director of the North Coast Growers Association (NCGA), said annexing the ag lands could impair their use for food production and jeopardize local food security, and opposed their inclusion into the City of Arcata.

LAFCo Commissioner and Third District Supervisor Mike Wilson said that given the supervisors' disinterest

ANNEXATION ❖ PAGE 6

Arcata CC ponders hazard pay for grocery frontliners

Kevin L. Hoover
MAD RIVER UNION

ARCATA – For many, the COVID-19 pandemic brought new clarity to what is important and what isn't in everyday life. One consequence was fresh appreciation for those whose jobs require daily contact with the disease-riddled public.

Among the most essential and courageous – and not highly compensated – workers are those who staff local supermarkets, putting their health at added risk. Last week the City Council took up the legally problematic matter of hazard pay for grocery store employees.

The hazardous duty compensation would take the form of an extra \$3 or \$4 per hour on top of regular wages.

Councilmembers said they received extraordinary amounts of comment on the proposal from all sides. And while they were sympathetic, the matter is fraught with complications. Several communities have attempted to require supplemental pay for food store workers. Legal challenges from grocers were quick to crop up, with some closing stores in response.

Questions include what size stores should be affected; whether other types of stores such as large drugstores

HAZARD PAY ❖ PAGE 4

HSU Bookstore moving in to PacOut Arcata

MAD RIVER UNION

ARCATA – Pacific Outfitters owner Aaron Ostrom last week announced the closure of the store's Arcata branch.


Said Ostrom, "Almost 20 years ago I left the hotel and grocery industry to start working for my pops at the Arcata location, back when it was the New Outdoor Store on the Plaza. Sad to see Arcata close for good, but at the same time we (Pacific Outfitters) will be growing and expanding in other ways. Stay tuned..."

That announcement was followed quickly by one from Humboldt State University, announcing the migration of the HSU Bookstore to Pacific Outfitters' former G Street location. The HSU news release:

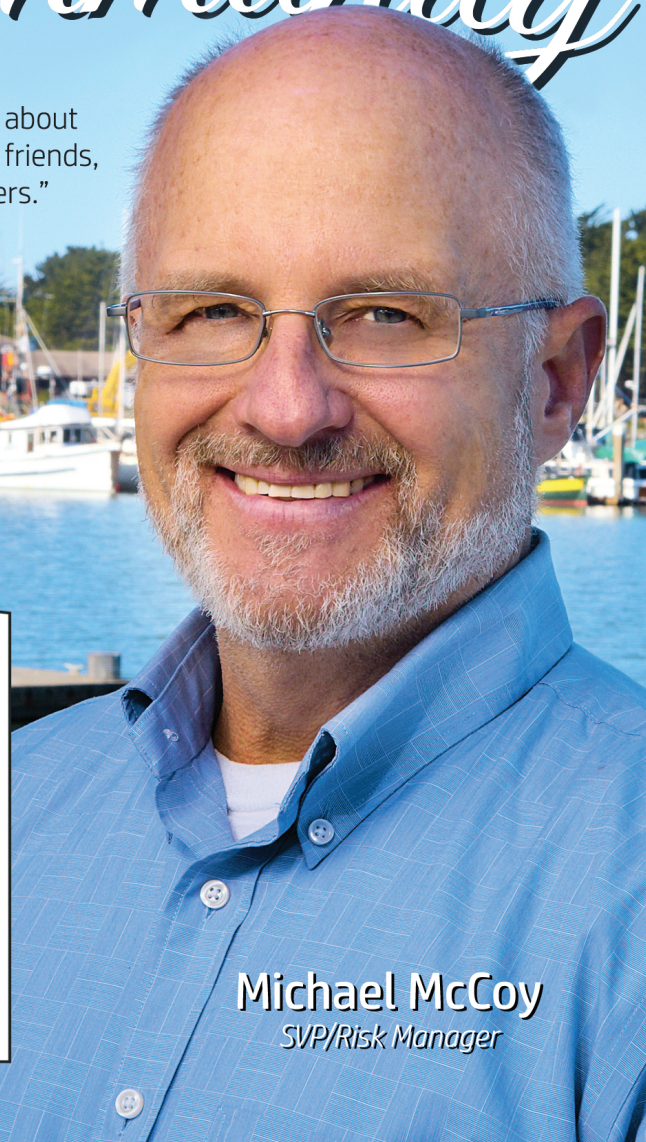
HSU Bookstore moving to Downtown Arcata

The Humboldt State University Bookstore—which sells apparel, gifts, and other merchandise along with textbooks—is moving to the former Pacific Outfitters building, just off the Plaza on G

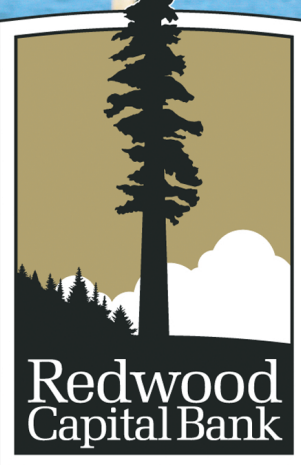
BOOKSTORE ❖ PAGE 2



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Bookstore | Key Plaza building reopening on July 1

FROM 1

Street. The store is expected to open in its new location by July 1.

The move is a big win for the university and the community. Its new location will provide numerous benefits that students, community members and visitors have been asking for.

HSU has been working with the community to find ways for students, many of whom travel from more urban areas, to connect with and feel welcome in the community.

The new bookstore location will help. With HSU goods, and the ability to hold student and community-centered events like guest lectures and mixers, students will have a welcoming space in the heart of Arcata.

The new bookstore will have a small coffee and tea lounge for customers to enjoy while shopping. It will also provide easy access to



PORTAL TO THE PLAZA Pacific Outfitters on G Street between Seventh and Eighth streets will become the new location for the Humboldt State University Bookstore. PHOTO COURTESY AARON OSTROM

parking for shoppers, especially tourists, prospective students and families visiting from out of the area.

The Couxp food truck will continue food service in the parking lot. The Couxp is launching a discount for HSU employees and students of \$1.25 off on orders with an HSU ID.

"We are excited to welcome the Humboldt State University Bookstore to downtown Arcata," says Karen Diemer, Arcata city manager. "We know that

the Plaza improves every time a new business moves in.

The bookstore is sure to be a draw for both locals and visitors to stock up on Humboldt State spirit. As we work to grow out of the pandemic's recession, having the university invest by directly filling the largest retail vacancy caused by COVID-19 is a huge boost. Go Jacks!"

The move also opens up the current bookstore space, which students have been requesting to use for lounge space, activities, and entertainment. The bookstore will maintain its current warehouse space on campus for receiving and picking up textbooks, along with handling textbook rentals, and the university is exploring delivering textbooks to students in residence halls. The College Creek

Marketplace on campus will continue to sell HSU Bookstore items in the store and expand upon the current selection.

Follett will continue managing the bookstore, bringing their specially branded HSU merchandise and other items for store visitors. And HSU will be looking at working with College of the Redwoods and local high schools to carry some of their branded items to create a shared community. The bookstore will continue selling HSU merchandise in Eureka's Clarke Museum.

The unexpected opportunity for the new location arose very recently and HSU was alerted that Pacific Outfitters was looking to lease its Arcata space. Pacific Outfitters will continue operating their stores in Eureka and Ukiah.

New babes, moms & dads can safely play outside

ARCATA RECREATION
ARCATA – The Arcata Recreation Division is excited to offer free, physically distant outdoor groups for new parents through Arcata Play Center this spring.

The Wednesday New Parents Group for Spanish Speakers meets every Wednesday from 3 to 4:30 p.m. at the Arcata Marsh & Wildlife Sanctuary. New parents, caregivers and babies will enjoy baby blanket time and guided nature walks through the marsh with babies in arms, carriers or strollers. This group will meet Wednesday, April 7 through Wednesday, June 30.

The Tuesday New Parents Group meets from 12 to 1:30 p.m. at the Mal'el Dunes on the first and third Tuesday of the month and at the Arcata Community Forest on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month. New parents, caregivers and babies will enjoy baby blanket time and guided, therapeutic nature walks through the dunes and the forest with babies in arms or carriers, and this group will meet Tuesday, April 6 through Tuesday, June 29.

The Thursday New Parents Group meets from 10 to 11:30 a.m. at the McKay Community Forest in Eureka every Thursday of the month. New parents, caregivers and babies will enjoy nature walks through the forest with babies in arms or carriers. This group will meet Thursday,

April 1 through Thursday, June 24.

The Friday New Parents Group meets from 10 to 11:30 a.m. every Friday at the Arcata Marsh & Wildlife Sanctuary. This offering is for new parents who speak English or Spanish. New parents, caregivers and babies will enjoy baby blanket time and guided nature walks through the marsh with babies in arms, carriers or strollers. This group will meet Friday, April 2 through Friday, June 25.

Precautions will be in place to ensure compliance with State and County COVID-19 health and safety regulations. Face coverings, physical distancing and other health and safety protocols are required for all staff and participants, and additional time will be taken for wellness screenings. Families who have traveled, had visitors from out of the area or possibly been exposed to COVID-19 must wait 14 days before attending.

Participation is free thanks to funding provided by the First 5 Humboldt. Registration is limited to five families per session, with infants aged 0 to 1 year per session. Pre-registration is required by visiting cityofarcata.org/rec or by calling (707) 825-2150.

For more information, please visit cityofarcata.org or call (707) 822-7091. For more information or for assistance in Spanish, please call (323) 781-6042.

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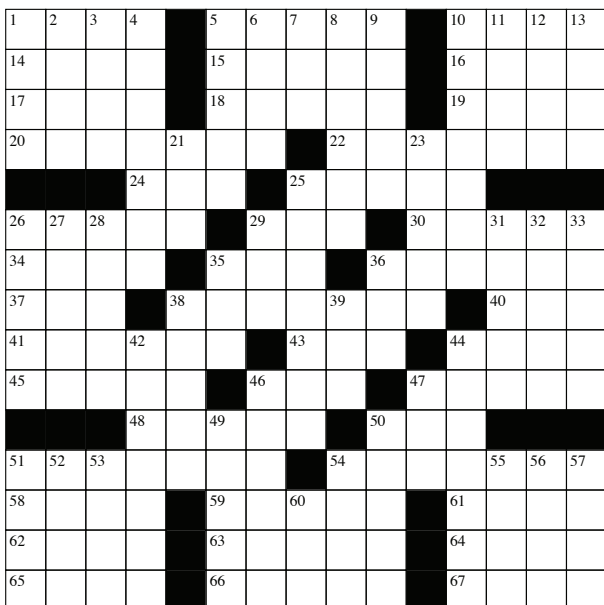
CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- Tip the tam
- Attires
- Touches lightly
- Nautical term
- Metropolitan
- Essayist's alias
- Librarian's advice
- Piece of pie
- Appearance
- Port on Lake Ontario
- Pack rats
- Atlantic resort, for short
- See 5 Down
- Fathered
- Depressed
- Jagged
- Old French coins
- McKinley and Kilimanjaro: abbr.
- Follows as a result
- So, state
- One of the tenses
- Trinitrotoluene, familiarly
- Toto's home
- Long-eared animal
- ___ majesté
- European ermine
- Mont Blanc, for one
- More uncommon
- Records
- Ready-fire connector
- Emotional exhaustion
- Novel division
- Shallowest of five
- Cotton thread
- Greasy
- Breakfast order
- North ___
- Heraldic border
- Soothing beverages
- Hairnet
- Monster's home

DOWN

- Move quickly
- Spread
- Terror
- Felt hats
- Zest
- ___ Guthrie
- Baseball stat.
- Supported
- Haughty look
- Moderates
- "I cannot tell ___"
- Landing place
- Without
- Word with pick or wit
- Happening
- Feudal tenants
- Bills
- Brilliant success
- Effective fertilizer
- Holy mile
- External
- Word with sixth or common
- Organic compound
- Fem. title
- English letters
- Courtyard
- Intuition, for short
- Sorrow
- Satirical work
- Film director's cry
- Narrow inlet
- Remains angry
- Leading
- Red edible
- Encourage
- Latvian capital
- Antony's love, for short
- Object that you hate to see flat
- Annexes, often
- Deli purchases
- Crowded theater sign



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MAD RIVER UNION

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AAUW honors two

AAUW HUMBOLDT – Beginning in 1986, each March the Humboldt American Association of University Women (AAUW) Branch honors women who have made a difference in Humboldt County.

This year's honorees were recognized at the March 6 meeting of the AAUW. This year's recipients are Teresa Frankovich and Donna Hauser.

Dr. Frankovich was acting public health officer until very recently. She took a part time job in Humboldt County but was thrust into acting as the head of the Pandemic Response which was more than a full-time job.

Frankovich, who has been practicing pediatric medicine since the late 1980s, served a stint at Redwood Pediatric Medical Group in Fortuna from 1991 through 1994. She returned to Humboldt County last year and worked as a pediatrician at Open Door Clinic in Eureka.

She holds a Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Sciences and Psychology from the University of Michigan, a Doctor of Medicine from the University of Michigan Medical School in Ann Arbor and a Master of Public Health from the University of California, Berkeley, School of Public

Health.

Donna Hauser has been an outstanding community volunteer. Her lists of volunteer activities are numerous and she has been a dedicated volunteer for the Office of Elections for 14 years. She recently posted a quotation from *The Mastery of Self* by don Miguel Ruiz Jr.

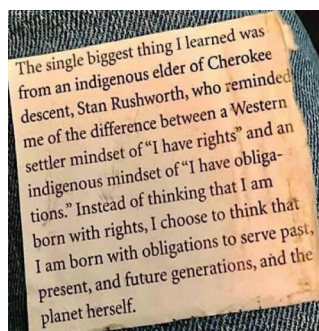
It is an excellent statement of Ms. Hauser's goals and has been a big advantage for our community.



Dr. Teresa Frankovich



Donna Hauser



BL CHAMBER 2021

SUNNY BLUE LAKE Newly elected 2021 Blue Lake Chamber of Commerce officers are, seated, Mariel Morison, secretary; and, standing, Mandi Kindred, vice-president; Marvin Samuels, president; and Rick Levin, treasurer. Additional Board members are Karen Miller, Alicia Rousseau and Michele Kandaris.

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OBITUARY

Charlie Gilbert, 1944-2021

Teacher, actor, comedian – Charlie lived a life of creativity and fun. He was a talented, quirky performer, and critical thinker. He was kind, generous, sometimes exasperating, and a loyal friend. Charlie was born in Manhattan, to Mollie and Julius Gilbert, on April 12, 1944. He and his younger sister, Annette, grew up in Riverdale, and he lived in New York City until 1992 when he moved to L.A. with his first wife. He taught special education students in NYC



and L.A. public schools for over 20 years. Charlie sought the joke in every moment. He earned

a master's degree in media studies from The New School of Social Research and produced dramatic radio documentaries for WBAI and NPR. He also created comedic characters who appeared on WBAI shows. In L.A., he performed in theatre, student films and standup comedy. In 2006, he married Linda Slater, his second wife, and in 2009, they moved to Arcata. Charlie performed with Jeff DeMark and nurtured a burgeoning Humboldt comedy scene. He moved back to L.A. right before the pandemic to be closer to family. He suffered a hemorrhagic stroke on February 5, 2021, and died the following morning in San Diego.

Charlie leaves behind his loving wife Linda; his sister Annette; his daughter Sarah; his stepdaughter and granddaughter and many friends who loved him deeply.

The stage has gone dark, but if you listen closely, laughter dances across the sky as we all mourn this loss. (Further info: Charlie-Memorial44@gmail.com.)

The *Union's* April Fool edition will be read, re-read, heavily scrutinized, passed around and retained as a family keepsake. Write Jada at ad@madriverunion.com or call Jack at (707) 826-7000 to get your business's custom-crafted, humorous ad in next week's annual tissue of funnybone-oriented falsehoods.

Hazard pay

❖ FROM PAGE 1

should be included; the level of premium pay; if credit should be given for voluntary payments; the duration of the requirement; and the legal risk.

The idea was proposed by the United Food and Commercial Workers labor union. Its request was for an ordinance limited to grocery stores; an initial 90-day period unless Humboldt moved to the less restrictive Yellow Tier; that store which employ 500 or more nationwide and 15 or more in Arcata pay \$4 per hour extra; and that stores that employ more than 25 but fewer than 500 in Arcata would pay \$3 more per hour.

During public comment, the council heard from a grocery store owner who said her business is bearing added costs for employee COVID protection, and that the proposal would result in layoffs. But union representatives who called in said supermarkets have racked up record profits during the pandemic, and claimed that their workers face up to 40 percent added risk of contracting COVID-19. They urged adoption of the hazard or "hero" pay.

Councilmember Brett Watson asked for more detailed information on which to base a decision. He said hazard pay could be onerous for smaller grocers, and was concerned about passing a well-intentioned measure, then being sued. Several cities have been sued by grocer interests, with a suggestion that they could wind up being liable for the extra wages paid to workers under their ordinances. "We have several lawsuits as it is already," Watson said.

Councilmember Stacy Atkins-Salazar said that "At first glance," the idea holds strong appeal, given the sacrifice of grocery workers. But she recognized the difficulties business owners have staying open, and their fragility. "We really need to go in depth on the financials of some of these businesses we're talking about," she said. "I would hate for us to lose any of our stores or people to be out of work because of this."

Councilmember Emily Grace Goldstein supports the ordinance. After broad scoping with grocers and workers, she said she was "open to exploring options" but wanted the employees to make a wage commensurate with their risk. She said the formula should be based on number of employees, and that including drugstores in the ordinance "makes sense."

"This isn't about punishing businesses," Goldstein said. "It's about honoring employees."

Councilmember Sarah Schaefer supports the ordinance, and said a 90-day effective interval that would expire if the Yellow Tier kicks in would be appropriate.

After more discussion, the council voted 5-0 to have staff research the possibilities, including legal risk, and return with viable options.

COVID

❖ FROM PAGE 1

asking all regions in California to prepare for an influx of 4 million vaccine doses per week into the state.

All jurisdictions will submit vaccination expansion plans by the end of this month. A statewide push to "greatly expand vaccination operations" will follow, McGuire said.

The expansion will start in May and continue into June, he continued, adding that "we're looking at a significant expansion."

The "shorter-term outlook" is not as promising. McGuire said that over the next three weeks, the flow of vaccines into the state will "remain fairly flat," with about 1.8 million vaccines expected each week.

California's vaccination pace has picked up, however. McGuire said that in the 2.5 months leading to March, 10 million vaccine doses were administered. In the two weeks prior to the forum, three million shots were given.

Despite the improvement, McGuire added, "We know that we must do better and I can promise you we will."

Single-system shift

Also on the panel, Lori Nezura of the state's Office of Emergency Services said the state is preparing for increased vaccine supply by contracting with third-party providers for operation of "geographically diverse mega-sites" and mobile clinics.

The shift into a "single system" includes a state-level appointment website, my-turn.ca.gov.

During a question and answer session, McGuire said many of the forum's online audience of 2,700 people were asking about when residents aged 50 to 64 will be eligible for vaccination.

McGuire said that's expected in May and Nezura agreed. "You heard it, I heard it – our president did say that he's going to encourage states, starting May 1, to vaccinate everyone," she said.

Although she qualified that it's "hard to say" whether there will be enough vaccine supply to do it, Nezura said dropping age limits is being "actively discussed" and is underway in some counties.

"But in the next month – and definitely two – we will undoubtedly see that age limit come down," she continued.

The county confirmed 64 new COVID-19 cases last week but total hospitalizations remained at 135. There was one new death, of an elderly person, bringing that total to 35.

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Amount per serving			
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Sodium 2 mg			0%
Potassium 195 g			5%
Carbohydrates 25 g			8%
Sugar 19 g			
Protein 0.5 g			1%
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Threatened western snowy plovers are nesting – respect their habitat

FRIENDS OF THE DUNES
ARCATA – Breeding season is here for North Coast populations of western snowy plovers.

For the federally threatened Pacific coast population of these birds, March until mid-September is the most important time of year: time to find a mate, lay and incubate eggs, then teach the young how to survive on their own.

Along the North Coast, snowy plovers are starting to pair up and nesting will begin any day.

These small tan and white shorebirds – about the size of a sparrow – live on open, sandy beaches and dunes. Invertebrates make up their diet. They hunt for small bugs like sand hoppers and flies in piles of seaweed and debris along the high tide line.

Snowy plovers have large eyes that help them spot their prey and predators. They prefer to live in areas with sparse, native vegetation so that they can see predators approaching. They are always on alert for ravens, falcons, or skunks lurking nearby.

Although it may not seem like it, dogs, horses, and their people are just as dangerous to snowy plovers



FRAGILE Western snowy plovers, above. Right, plover chicks.

CITY OF ARCATA PHOTOS

if they get too close. When visiting the beach this time of year, if you're lucky enough to see a snowy plover, they will likely be on their own or in small, spread out groups (those larger flocks of shorebirds probing the wet sand for food are mostly made up of sanderlings and sandpipers).

More likely, though, you won't see a plover if it's hunkered down on a nest: they sit still as statues and do a great job camouflaging their nest area.

To ensure the adults, eggs and future chicks have the best possible chance of survival, beach visitors can help by following a few simple guidelines:

- Respect all areas posted or roped-off for the protection of wildlife.
- When walking on the beach, stay on the wet



hard-packed sand. Do not approach birds or nests.

- Avoid prolonged picnicking or sunbathing near plover-nesting habitat.
- Camp or build fires only in designated areas.
- Be sure to know beach-specific dog rules before you go. If dogs are permitted, follow the leash rules and don't allow your dog to play in dry sand areas where birds are more prone to nest. Never allow your dog to chase birds.
- Do not leave or bury trash or food scraps on the beach. Garbage attracts predators such as gulls, crows, ravens and skunks. Please dispose of all trash

properly and do not inadvertently (or intentionally) feed wildlife.

- If you're on a beach that allows vehicles, drive low and slowly, staying on the hard-packed sand below the high tide line.

- Avoid flying kites or other hovering objects near plover-nesting habitat.

To balance recreational opportunities and wildlife protection along the North Coast, beach activities may be restricted to certain areas during the critical nesting time, March 15 through Sept. 15.

You can do your part by knowing and adhering to location-specific rules and regulations.

For more information on the western snowy plover and YOU, beach rules and regulations, beach access and a user-friendly dog guide visit:

vimeo.com/184161227
parks.ca.gov/

friendsofthedunes.org/resources
savetheredwoods.org/wp-content/uploads/guides/dog-friendly-redwood-parks-guide.pdf
wood-parks-guide.pdf.visitredwoods.com/listing/south-humboldt-bay-%26-ocean-beach-access/532/

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Please, let the lovely li'l trilliums live

CITY OF ARCATA
ARCATA – Spring is here, and the Environmental Services Department would like to offer some tips for community members on how to harmlessly appreciate the beauty of native wildflowers growing in Arcata's natural spaces.

When visiting the Arcata Community Forest, one of the first promising signs that winter is passing is coming across the beautiful white clusters of Pacific trillium (*Trillium ovatum*). These simple, elegant flowers are ephemeral bloomers, which means they flower for a short period of time and go dormant until the next year.

While Pacific trillium are beautiful, they are also fragile. Touching or picking trillium can injure or even kill this native wildflower, so it is important that community members appreciate their beauty from a distance.

Picking these wildflowers have harmful impacts that can damage the plant so it is unable to regrow in the future. Picking trillium also negatively impacts insects and animals who rely on the flower for food or protective cover. In order to ensure trillium blooms in the Arcata Community Forest for generations to come, the Environmental Services Department has a few tips for flower lovers on how to appreciate wildflowers without harming the plants:

- Take photos. A photo



Pacific trillium (*trillium ovatum*) can last a lifetime, and it is a great way to appreciate floral beauty without touching the plant.

- Make some art. Sketching, drawing, painting, or even felting a native flower is a fun way to get creative and keep a piece of nature inside your home.
- Download a nature app. Apps such as Inaturalist or Picture allow users to identify and share photos of the plants in the wild.
- Plant a native plant garden. Planting native flora is

a great way to keep nature close to home, and native plant gardens benefit native insects, birds and mammals.

Not only are native gardens good for the environment, but once established they are often lower maintenance than ornamental gardens, as they are well equipped for the local climate. Please be sure to only buy native plants from reputable nurseries and never remove the plants from the wild.

The Environmental Services Department encourages all community members to get outside and take a safe stroll through the Arcata Community Forest to admire the trillium while they are in bloom. For more information, email eservices@cityofarcata.org or call (707) 822-8184.

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Effective July 1, 2020, in response to the economic crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Personal Leave Program 2020 (PLP 2020) was implemented. PLP 2020 requires that each full-time employee receive a 9.23 percent reduction in pay in exchange for 16 hours PLP 2020 leave credits monthly through June 2022. EOE

Peace, love & old friends

Many of us lost a dear friend this past week. Carol Davis passed peacefully at 11:15 a.m. March 13, in the home she loved with her family, at the time predicted by her caregivers.

I wouldn't be surprised for a second, that she chose the time and date to leave, giving all of us another a glimpse of a remarkable woman, full of surprises and the unexpected all her life. The gospel music she sang and loved accompanied her on her way.

We met in the sixties, running around Humboldt State as young women having no real idea who we were or what we were doing. We married, had some crazy stupid jobs, enjoyed marvelous opportunities and adventures, with and without our kids.

We gathered friends and memories that lasted all throughout her life and are still a part of mine. Arcatans will mourn her passing and miss her in the community more than most will realize. As she is remembered by those who loved her and by the huge extended family she created, cry a little, celebrate her, and laugh out loud.

Carol was part of the McKinleyville Senior Center in her last few years, riding what we called the Bingo Bus to a specialized exercise class to help keep us moving. She always greeted everyone as if she hadn't seen you in years. Her goodbye was the same, too... "Peace and Love" followed by a familiar peace sign. I still remember when she dropped "Tie Dye."

Loosing cherished friends is something most seniors don't often talk about because our departure is expected as our time grows short. But as our dearest friends, along with chunks of our history go with them, it's a different kind of grieving.

It is the natural order of things. But those of us who survive the everchanging, and expected loss of those friends we love, the memories have lived with us for a long, long time and expressing those feelings is

almost impossible.

Partly because we have memories that fade and then pop up at unexpected moments. I know this happens to everyone experiencing loss of someone you've loved, but for seniors it's just passed off as "senior moments." Ever wonder why there's always Kleenex and handkerchiefs in our purses and pockets? If you see someone of a certain age crying, sometimes nothing hurts, they're just remembering a part of their life that they'd forgotten until that moment. Tears of joy and sadness mingle to honor those memories.

If there's an older person in your life, in your family or neighborhood, please ask them about those memories and listen. Not only are you collecting stories that will make you laugh or astound you, but you're also doing the one thing every aging person I've ever met craves... honoring their life in the simplest, easiest way by giving them the respect they've earned. Bring a tissue or a hankie, you'll need it.

The McKinleyville Senior Center is working to reopen as soon as it's safe for the population we serve. Lots of changes, cleaning, new COVID compliant furniture and excitement as vaccinations are making progress in controlling the COVID spread and hopefully to regain our lives soon.

Please get vaccinated. Everyone around you will sigh with relief. And, of course, we are still collecting and raising funds to keep operating. Thanks again for filling up our Spring Green jars all over town and your jars of coins! I feel so fortunate to have picked this generous community to call home.

Thank you to Kevin, Jack and Ted for your ongoing support for the senior community and giving us information and entertainment in print. Call Patti (707) 845-2817 if you want a visit from "the Coin Collector." I'm grabbing a tissue to send you a wish for Peace and Love from me and my dear friend Carol.



MCKINLEYVILLE SENIOR CENTER Patti Stammer

Mega-grow | Continued

❖ FROM PAGE 1

Senior Planner Rodney Yandell outlined the project, and its physical features. These include nearly 771,000 square feet of outdoor "light deprivation" or hoop house grows, over 147,000 square feet of mixed-light cultivation and 83,000-plus feet of nursery space. Three ancillary support buildings would include 62,100 square feet, while two stormwater detention basins would contain 0.8 acre feet of capacity, with an onsite wastewater treatment system.

Water for the grow – 17 million gallons per year – would come from a permitted groundwater well, and electrical power from PG&E. Some 116 employees are anticipated, with access from Foster Avenue to the site, which is zoned Heavy Industrial with a Qualified Combing Zone and a General Plan designation of Ag Exclusive. Construction would be carried out this year and next.

Yandell said all impacts cited by critics have been studied and well mitigated. Added conditions of approval control odor and noise. He recommended approval of the project's Mitigated Negative Declaration and adoption of the Conditional Use Permit.

Sun Valley Floral Farms CEO Lane Devries, who also operates Arcata Land Co., described the project as an inclusive boon to the county which would allow Sun Valley to remain a large Humboldt employer with 450 jobs, a nearly \$28 million payroll and spending \$12 million with Northern California vendors.

Devries said domestic flower growers are struggling against foreign competition, with some going under. "We want to continue to be a flower farmer in Arcata," he said.

Devries said he has no intention of becoming a cannabis grower, and disclosed that a cannabis management company called Headwaters has been hired to operate the grow. Headwaters CEO/Founder Tristan Strauss said he takes community concerns seriously, will "address these impacts head on" and would consult with community members to address any issues. He said the project will "further our long-term vision for unity and partnership across the cannabis community."

Land Use consultant Jordan Main said the project is in keeping with the site's historic use as an industrial facility, located far from sensitive facilities such as churches, schools and parks with all lighting, odor and noise impacts scientifically mitigated.

Despite assurances, skeptics were not assuaged. Neighbors, cannabis advocates and land use activists responded to the happy depictions with a wall of objections.

Karen Davidson said Sun Valley's past performance didn't give her confidence in its promises for the new grow operation.

Natalynne DeLapp, executive director of the Humboldt County Growers Alliance, said the 23-acre grow is far in excess of the eight-acre limit specified in Land Use Ordinance 2.0. She stressed that use permits are not automatically granted, but are discretionary. She said the Planco should reject what she called a "bloated monstrosity, arrogant and out of touch in its assumptions of legality and does not conform with the vision of Humboldt's cannabis industry as craft, local or independent as we have collectively established between our laws, policies and programs."

DeLapp asked that the project be reduced to eight acres or less, that mixed-light cultivation be prohibited and that the lighting scheme be revisited.

A 27th Street resident said the project is "wrong on so many levels," and that Sun Valley has been a bad, promise-breaking corporation that has disregarded its responsibilities to the neighborhood over traffic and visual blight. "Please don't pass this project," she said. "Don't ruin the Arcata Bottoms."

Dave Dickinson, an indie cannabis grower, said the Planco had given an informal for the project – an objection echoed by others who said the county is acting as an advocate rather than an impartial judge. He called the project "out of scale and out of proportion to what Humboldt County is about."

A series of other speakers listed light, noise, odor, pesticides, traffic and quality of life impacts, and said an unfair process had sidelined citizens from fairly participating. Some demanded that an EIR be required.

With the hour growing late and an abundance of queued speakers still to speak, the hearing was continued to April 1.

Annexation | Partly rescinded

❖ FROM PAGE 1

in protectively zoning ag land, he wasn't convinced that they would be better protected by staying in the county, which has greenlighted development-friendly zoning.

"The idea that the county has stronger policies for ag preservation than the City of Arcata I just don't think metes out in reality," he said.

Other commissioners agreed with his assessment.

But, Wilson said, he was comfortable with contracting the annexation back to that originally proposed by the city. He said he wished he had the kind of support for ag protection being expressed at the LAFCo meeting during his struggles with fellow supervisors to gain such protections.

Community Development Director David Loya said that despite claims by farmers, existing ag uses would be allowed by the city were their lands annexed and that the city would work with them to ensure continuity and compliance.

Ultimately, Wilson moved to adopt a draft motion to approve the reconsideration request and to annex only the parcels originally proposed by the City of Arcata, to develop a Memorandum of Understanding between the city and county over maintenance of Foster Avenue, and reorganize the Janes Creek Storm District.

The motion passed unanimously.

Blue Lake | County will assist in finding new location for grow

❖ FROM PAGE 1

But Laura Costa told supervisors that the meeting with the neighbors also included an important condition – "An apology letter from the neighbors, admitting their negligent misrepresentation against our family and our character."

She added, "We agreed to these terms under duress, with no other option to clear our name or have a farm."

But during a public comment period, Michael Fields, a Warren Creek Road resident who was part of the community meeting with the Costas, gave a different account of what had happened.

"The process worked and what is before you today is the solution that was arrived at," he said, adding that "a formal apology was never a condition of this agreement."

He thanked the Costas and his neighbors for their willingness to negotiate and said that "the process that

was proposed actually worked and worked well."

Other Warren Creek Road residents and representatives of the Costas gave contrasting accounts of the meeting and its outcomes.

Others, including Natalynne DeLapp, executive director of the Humboldt Growers Alliance, vouched for the Costas' integrity.

In the previous hearings, multiple neighbors gave accounts of troubling incidents related to the farm property.

Rocci Costa had told the Planning Commission, then the Board of Supervisors, that there had been what he described as squatters on the property and he had to take action to evict them.

The farm is in Supervisor Mike Wilson's district. He described the review process as "painful" said the relocation agreement is "painful but it gets us through this."

Supervisors readied to approve the RRR agreement but in response to

the Costas' doubts about moving to a distant alternate site in Honeydew, Supervisor Michelle Bushnell grasped for consensus.

She suggested that the county help the Costas find a site closer to Blue Lake and asked if they would agree to move to the Honeydew site if another can't be found.

"If the county makes a sincere effort to help us find a receiving spot, we would very much appreciate that," said Costa.

Doing so would be "a great gesture" and a "great olive branch," she continued.

Costa also asked that a senior planner be assigned to their permit.

Planning Director John Ford said those terms "can be accommodated."

That settled the matter, as supervisors unanimously voted to approve the Costas' appeal of the permit denial under the terms discussed by Bushnell and Laura Costa.

The Police Log has been on hiatus – let's catch us some up

• **Wednesday, February 10 3:58 p.m.** Social distancing? Smo- cial smistancing, said the crowd- ed crowd of 25 to 30 common sense-disregarders mingling at op- timal disease-transmission range of each other in Stewart Park, ig- noring the sign to the contrary.
• **9:16–11:04 p.m.** On H Street and at a Valley West motel, people behind on their car payments went out to drive off somewhere and found empty parking spaces where their repossessed wheels had been.
• **Thursday, February 11 6:16 a.m.** Two months after a set of tires and rims were stolen out of the back of a truck parked at an L Street old creamery building, they turned up on that list of Craig's.
• **1:57 p.m.** A man with writing on his face who wore multiple jack- ets stole a black electrified guitar and amplifier from the Plaza, then strode off up G Street carrying all that plus yet another guitar.
• **3:24 p.m.** A woman said a man walked into her Stromberg Avenue house through an open patio door, then left by jumping out of a window.
• **Wednesday, February 17 3:29 a.m.** Backhoe music sere- naded Madrone Way.
• **9:55 a.m.** The red baseball cap might've foretold the entirely un- necessary clash in which an aged backpacker refused to wear a mask inside a Sunny Brae super-

market, then mismanaged his an- ger all over the staff.
• **10:40 a.m.** Still searching for strife, the red-hatted rager set up a sort of effrontery-based toll booth at Bayside Road and Crescent Way, where he argued with passing vehi- cles until urged otherwise.
• **Thursday, February 18 4:19 a.m.** A she-maskhole at a Heindon Road diner wouldn't cover her face, which, along with everything it was at- tached to, was moved along.
• **Friday, February 19 5:53 p.m.** Roommate relations on 14th Street reached the throw- ing-things-and-re- straining-order stage.
• **Saturday, February 20 9:34 a.m.** A roommate asked if it was an assault when his cohabitant spit in his face.
• **6:21 p.m.** A man with goggles over his mouth was asked to leave a Uniontown supermarket.
• **Sunday, February 21 7:24 p.m.** A Sierra Way resident came home to find an extension cord running from an outside outlet at her house to her travel trailer, which was occupied by trespassers.
• **Monday, February 22 2:25 a.m.** A man in a Valley West Boul- evard apartment was heard to say

"I'm not putting my hands on you," and sounds of thumping ensued.
• **10:26 a.m.** A woman going through an ugly divorce found a tracking de- vice on her car on the Plaza.

• **Tuesday, February 23 8:22 a.m.** A man was caught on video stealing bags of dog food from be- hind a Valley West business at 2 a.m.

• **Wednesday, February 24 11:37 a.m.** A 10th Street business had trouble getting a work computer back from a dismissed employee.
• **12:51 p.m.** A red- haired man with a fes- tive nose bandage went into a Valley West em- porium and put on mul- tiple layers of clothes

that were on sale there. After walk- ing out with merchandise tags vis- ibly dangling from under his dis- reputable hoodie, he jumped on a bicycle and headed for the nearby tweaker-plagued shop(lift)ing cen- ter, where he was cited.
• **Thursday, February 25 7:12 p.m.** A short, beanie-topped man notified staff and customers at a Valley West restaurant of his in- tention to return later that night and stab them.
• **Friday, February 26 3:08 p.m.** An argument in a G Street home escalated to the point where the living room floor was newly

furnished with corpuscles.
• **9:11 a.m.** An unintentional ex- periment in which tools were left unlocked in the bed of a truck parked across the street from a homeless camp yielded predict- able results.
• **1:03 p.m.** As workers up on a scissor lift trimmed a spruce tree on 11th Street, a nearby lunatic climbed to the top of the tree to act out in lunatic-guy fashion, re- fusing to get down.
• **Tuesday, March 2 4:39 p.m.** A screaming man at Ninth and H streets trained fiery verbal wrath on two people who had fallen into disfavor: his girlfriend and the newborn infant whose diaper he was changing.
• **Wednesday, March 3 10:24 a.m.** A G Street restaurant's neighbor was upset that they had opened their porch for outside dining. She addressed the issue

by leaning over the fence and spit- ting liquid into a customer's face.

• **Thursday, March 4 2:21 p.m.** A camouflage coat-wear- ing marsh trail hiker was well equipped for whatever nature-ap- preciation activity that required him to carry an eight-inch knife and a hammer.

• **Friday, March 5 1:45 p.m.** A G Streeter wanted ejection Of the unknown and unmasked collection Of drummers quite feckless Asked there by a reckless Roommate unconcerned with infection
• **8:11 p.m.** A woman walked into a J Street cultural facility, peed on the floor, slapped someone's face and then walked across the street.
• **Saturday, March 6 10:46 a.m.** After refusing to wear a mask at a Westwood business and arguing about it, a man got one out of his truck but perpetuated the dispute with lewd remarks.



Nerts & Nimrod

"Ha, ha, ha!"
"Whaddya laughing about, Nerts?"
"The *Mad River Union's* April Fool Edition, Nimrod. *Ha, ha, ha!*"
"But Nerts, it doesn't even come out until March 31!"
"I know, Nimrod – I'm still laughing about last year's edition!"
"Ha, ha, ha!"
"Well, then we better email Jada at ads@madriverunion.com and get a funny ad in the March 31, 2021 edition right away!"
"Cool story, bro, but I'm calling Jack at (707) 826-7000 for my funny ad before I forget! *Ha, ha, ha!*"
"Ha, ha, ha!"

Letters to the county Planco about the Arcata Land Co. grow

Note: The Humboldt County Planning Commission received numerous letters regarding the proposed 22.9-acre Arcata Land Co. cannabis grow operation on the Arcata Bottom. Below is a sampling. These and more are readable on the county Planco’s website. –Ed.

Wrong on many levels

I am writing in opposition to the 23 acre mega grow proposed by The Arcata Land Company. This project is wrong for the location on so many levels! Please look into the environmental impacts to the neighborhood as well as the long term impacts to the planet (23 acres of hoop houses and five tons of plastic landfill each year) This project is out of scale. And please ignore the ridiculous claim from the applicant that they need to do this to stay afloat. They started this application long before Covid impacted the cut flower business. This is a greedy corporate attempt to get into the weed industry and the impact on our community is way out of balance! Please vote NO
Thank You, **Dan Tangney**
Arcata resident, 43 years

No impact? Please.

Hello, I’m sorry I missed your advertisement for comment on this terrible idea.
I’d appreciate learning how this project was justified in receiving a Negative Declaration. I’m stymied at how a 22.9 acre grow has no environmental impact?
I’m especially interested in the light and smell pollution issue. But the planning of pesticide runoff into Liscom Slough is also important.
Especially since the location has two elementary schools within less than a diagonal mile (On Janes), and a Catholic Church.
Thank Yyou for your assistance.

Jennifer F. Taylor
Arcata
P.S. Also, is there any access to the actual permit?

So many huge impacts

I am writing to you again to voice my OPPOSITION to the proposed cannabis mega grows on Foster Avenue and the Bottoms of Arcata!!
Here are some of the reasons/concerns:
• WATER! The negative impact such a project/s would have on the areas’ residential wells that people (me) use for their Only source of water for households; the pollution of toxic chemicals and fertilizers that WOULD negatively compromise the aquifer via groundwater seepage and runoff; the depletion of the aquifer by the proposed onsite well/s in using HUGE extreme amounts of water; the negative impacts on the river by same runoff and seepage.
• Toxins in the environment; large amounts of chemicals, fertilizers, fungicides, fuel runoff – all into the groundwa-

❖ LETTERS TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION

ter, aquifer and air, exhausts from boiler use, potential (probable) spills of all the above. The list goes on!
• Visual and noise pollution; a blight on our beautiful Arcata Bottoms and pastoral area- such huge grow/s would Ruin that forever.
• Traffic! We already deal with too much increased traffic from Sun Valley, people taking the ‘back way’ to and from Eureka, 2 schools, farm and ranching vehicles, etc.
• Residents and local community enjoy Foster Ave. and area/s for recreation from walking, running, bicycling, etc. Plus the new “Creekside” development in the future works. WAY too much traffic for the area!!
• Negative impact/s on values of neighboring properties. This is a GIVEN.
• Security of the neighborhoods. A large cannabis grow/s will surely attract negative elements and compromise the health and safety of our peaceful neighborhoods.
• DUMB IDEA! The coastal environment is a terrible place to cultivate cannabis; it’s too damp, not enough sunshine, it molds! They’d need to use toxic fungicides, supplemental lighting, mega fans and heaters, etc. There are far better places to grow cannabis commercially, inland areas in the sunshine that would be easier, healthier and not have the Many huge negative irreversible impacts this project would have on our community, environment and natural resources.
• I appreciate the county’s desire and need for the tax revenue and fiscal impact this could have from a large project/s such as this and also the owners of the proposed project/s thinking it could be a good business venture – BUT, this is just a BAD IDEA all around.

Sincerely, **Ramona Fair**
Arcata

An EIR is necessary

Mega cannabis grows are popping up all over California. These industrial operations have been approved by planning departments without proper notification to, or response from their local communities. Residents are up in arms; now subjected to living with the stench of skunk, light pollution, noise from fans; a huge unexpected change in quality of life.
I am concerned about pesticides, air quality, Loss of natural beauty, Light pollution, Loss of prime ag land, schools in proximity to proposed grow, Increased traffic and noise, Loss of the quality of life in the bottoms, Lowering of property values, and water usage as results of this mega grow.
I am in opposition of the Arcata Bottoms, Sun Valley Bulb Farm is proposing the ninth largest cannabis grow in North America. 22.9 acres, 193 hoops houses, one million square feet of marijuana plants; equal to 17 football fields. The public was

not informed.
Only five people received letters regarding this on January 26, 2021. This a huge project that can cause irreversible damage to our community. It requires an Environmental Impact Statement not the Mitigated Negative Declaration they have submitted.
Sincerely,
Anne Braak-Katz

This grow’s a no-go

I was shocked to learn of the recent annexation of land to develop the Foster Avenue housing and senior living Memory Services Complex. My major concern is for the lack of adequate roadways transporting the over 150 new cars – this will significantly and negatively impact current residents of the Jane’s Creek street area, as well as those along Foster Avenue. This area does not have the infrastructure to sustain the new development.
Then came the news reports regarding a *major* grow planned by the owner of Sun Valley Farms. Lane reported he has had a difficult year – too bad he failed to obtain the Paycheck Protection Program! (or maybe he just didn’t mention this).
Very few Arcata *residents*, (not sure where Lane lives, but this grow scene is not likely in his own backyard), have gone through 2020 unscathed. Many local business have had to give up; many more are hanging on only due to the financial support provided by COVID relief and state/local grants.
Lane wants to grow because “it’s been financially difficult.” Whine...
I protest the permit he is seeking; I protest the NEGATIVE DECLARATION attached to the current permit to grow FLOWERS.

Floral farms everywhere are suffering and they are not allowed to grow cannabis in lieu of flowers. My own business has gone down, yet I nor my neighbors are growing cannabis to make a quick buck.
This man has no concern for the negative and long-term impact his *scene* will cause to the local residents; evidently not above a bribe, Lane delivered flowers to some “neighbors.”
The City of Arcata has laws still on the books prohibiting the locals from growing more than their “fair share” of plants. How many local permitted and unpermitted “Mom and Pop” grows will go under if Sun Valley grows *millions* of cannabis plants? Too many.
The dilution of the Arcata brand name and Humboldt County crops alone is enough to warrant stopping this *major* mistake. Please consider the many instead of the one.
Prevent this grow, please.
Jennifer F Taylor
Arcata Resident since 2007

A terrible precedent

Regarding: Sun Valley’s application to locate an over-sized industrial cannabis growing operation in the Arcata Bottoms next to people’s homes: ARCATA LAND CO APPLICATION # 12255
As a home-owner and a 50-year county resident, I am strongly opposed to this application and this project.
Locating a large industrial cannabis operation with industrial-sized noise, odor, and other negative impacts next to people’s homes is poor planning and unacceptable.
Impacts to the residents would include: health impacts due to noxious odors and emissions, reduced property values, reduced ground water availability; unacceptable noise levels; increased traffic; and heavy negative impacts on the viewshed, the land, and the water.

If the Planning Commission approves this project, it will set a terrible precedent and be a threat to all Humboldt county residents in the unincorporated areas, knowing that our county Planning Commission finds it acceptable to locate enormous cannabis grows – with all the accompanying negative impacts – next to people’s homes.
The state of California says that planning commissioners shall “act in the public interest.” In this case, the public’s interest is to allow us all the quiet enjoyment of our homes.
PLEASE REJECT THIS APPLICATION.
Lin Glen
Blue Lake

Inadequate info

I am a resident who lives less than a mile away from this proposed project and am very concerned about the lack of transparency and insufficient information regarding the harms this project will cause if allowed to go forward.
I am concerned in particular about the odors, pollution and noise this project will generate for me and in the nearby Arcata downtown areas, the negative impact on property values likely to result from these impacts.
There is not enough information provided in the MNR to understand the magnitude of these possible impacts. This neighborhood is frequently impacted by foggy weather and studies have shown pollutants like pesticides and fumes are carried in fog to a much greater extent.
As a senior citizen and retiree, I moved here from Shasta county specifically to avoid the fires and the smell of cannabis being cultivated nearby my home. I am concerned that this project will have the same impact on me since I live downwind from this site.
I am requesting a full environmental impact report to address these concerns.
Thank you,
Suzanne Hurley

A pro-grow Planco

I participated in the last Planning Commission meeting on March 18, hoping to voice my opposition to the planned mega cannabis grow by Sun Valley, just outside the city limits and right nearby multiple neighborhoods, schools, recreational settings, and churches.

How is it appropriate to PLAN a mega grow into a burgeoning neighborhood? I was shocked to witness a member of the commission give essentially an infomercial about this proposed project.

It is my understanding that the Planning Commission officials are hired to examine projects and proposals and to communicate with the local residents and cities most affected by the proposals to ensure that they are deciding on plans that represent EVERYONE’S best interest.

Correct me if I am wrong but it is not their job to SELL those projects to the public. Especially when they are aware of the massive public opposition. Those stake holders wishing to sell the proposal can do so on their own.

I have lost confidence in Rodney Yandell’s ability to examine projects with a neutral and objective eye and to remember he was hired to represent and consider all the citizens being impacted when he is reviewing new projects.

This project would change the green belt of Arcata FOREVER. And the City Council was not even consulted, and the vast majority of the neighbors were not even notified. Shame.

Joan Edwards
Arcata

❖ LETTERS

My Pete story

It had been one of those days. The kind that over shadows happy. I was in Arcata and stopped by Wildberries for a few groceries before heading back to Kneeland. As I was contemplating what brand of garbanzo beans I should buy, a voice at the end of the aisle spoke in a long, drawn-out sigh, “Ohhhhhhhhhh.”

I turned to see a giant of a man. Putting the palms of his hands up to his cheeks, he danced toward me. He then placed one of his hands over his heart and said, “You are so beautiful.” And that was it. He gave a giggle, twirled around and headed back towards the front of the store. I remember other sightings of him after that; The Oyster Festival, Farmers Market.

Thank you, *Mad River Union*, for keeping us informed of his journey (*Pete gravely ill in Ore., getting hospice care. March 10, 2021*). Pete is a nostalgic character; an illustrious individual, who was once an icon in our community.

Little did Pete know our chance meeting at the supermarket that day shifted my reality. I’m sure a lot of ladies heard that same phrase from him in his travels. Yet-it was like he was at the right place at the right time. Uplifted and smiling, I placed my groceries into the trunk of my car and headed home.

Thank you, Pete, for the bright light you were in that moment when I needed it the most!

Mairead Dodd
Eureka

Shoshanna’s Arcata WordFind: Nominees and winners of the Arcata Chamber of Commerce 2021 Annual Business Leadership Awards

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J	A	C	K	I	E	D	A	N	D	E	N	E	A	U	X	R	Z	P	Q

You will definitely find the nominees and winners of the 2021 Annual Business Leadership Awards (horizontal, vertica:
Adventure’s Edge, Arcata House Partnership, Eco-Groovy Deals, Esteban’s, Hensel’s ACE Hardware, HDN Film Commission, Jackie Dandeneau, Los Bagels, (NorCal) PTAC, (North Coast) Co-op, Plaza Grill, Redwood Capital Bank, Septentrio, Six Rivers Brewery, Solutions, The Fireplace, Tobago, Wildberries

You also might find:
Arcata, Art, Dance, Dine, Festivals, Forest, Fun, Humboldt State, Jolly Giant, Kinetic, Mad River, Marsh, Plaza, Tiger, Wiyot

SCENE

Trinidad Chamber considers merging with McKinleyville

Allie Jones, executive director of the Greater Trinidad Chamber of Commerce, and Board of Directors members Brett Shuler, Tracie Creps, Mel Ward, John Lee and Chantele Leatherwood, with McKinleyville Chamber of Commerce representative Charles Caldwell, held a Zoom meeting last week to discuss the future of the Trinidad Chamber.

The Trinidad Chamber has held the Trinidad Fish Festival, which started out as a Crab Feed on the pier, since 1956. The Trinidad-Clam Beach Run, honoring founder Ford Hess, has been an annual event for 55 years until the 2021 winter race was canceled due to the coronavirus.

Tastin' Trinidad is another fall event and the Trinidad Chamber has tradition-

ally held an annual town Christmas party, mixers, monthly dinners, and has been supportive of the Thanksgiving Day Blessing of the Fleet and the Easter Egg Hunt with Trinidad Lions Club.

The Greater Trinidad Chamber of Commerce in its by-laws is set up to enhance the social, economic and civic life of the greater Trinidad area. Most of the events have been possible with the volunteer support of the entire Trinidad community including other service organizations and local businesses and even non-Chamber members.

A shrinking pool of volunteers and the COVID-19 challenges has caused the chamber leadership to consider options in keeping the chamber running. A possible merger with the McKinleyville Chamber of

Commerce has been suggested. Allie Jones wrote to Chamber members after last week's meeting:

"The Greater Trinidad Chamber of Commerce board voted to begin discussions about the potential to merge our chamber with the McKinleyville Chamber of Commerce. While key challenges (lack of volunteers, inability to raise funds through events) have been amplified because of COVID, we recognize these challenges aren't new – they have been keeping our chamber from offering the support our community needs and deserves for awhile.

"We believe in the power of chambers of commerce to help our community thrive, and our decision was rooted in a desire to help our community and businesses.

"Right now, we are at the important stage of discussing this possibility with our current members. In light of COVID restrictions, we are doing our very best to make sure all voices and opinions are heard, and will continue to do so.

"I truly believe this merger would benefit the Trinidad community and presents opportunities to be stronger together, with more collaboration and support at a regional level. At the same time, it is extremely important to us all that we can ensure that nothing gets lost or neglected. I believe we can still have the time-honored traditions, beloved events, and community support

with this merger and with the help of our neighbors and a renewed support from our community and other stakeholders.

"Please know that a merger does not need to mean the loss or end of the Trinidad Chamber, it would present opportunities for it to continue on, with dedicated subcommittees overseeing all chamber functions and initiatives. Our branding, marketing, events and community support don't need to end. But they will require volunteers and community engagement.

"I know some of you have valid concerns and questions. Many community members I have spoken to acknowledge that something needs to change, and we all want to figure out how to move forward in ways that honor the past and consider the future are important to us all. We will move forward slowly and deliberately, ensuring that our decisions take everyone's perspectives and needs into account."

Allie Jones ended her communication with an invitation to past and present chamber members to share viewpoints or join a subcommittee which will meet in early April. Email greatertrinidadchamber@gmail.com to find out more. You can leave voice mail at (707) 677-1610. The chamber's website is ExploreTrinidadCA.com.

Email Patti at baycity@sonic.net.



BOOKS DONATED The Rotary Club of Arcata Sunrise purchased nearly 100 books for the NAACP Black History Month Book Drive (96 and counting). "We're happy to help enrich Humboldt County K-12 school libraries by adding more Black/American history, Black arts and culture, Black and Brown authors and illustrators, promoting diversity, equity and empathy in our schools," stated a press release from Rotary.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

VOLUNTEER AT THE FARM The City of Arcata Environmental Services Department is seeking community members with interest in small-scale organic farming to participate in Bayside Park Farm's Volunteer Program. Bayside Park Farm is a three-acre vegetable farm located in the City of Arcata's Bayside Park, which is dedicated to cultivating connections between the community and sustainable agriculture. The Bayside Park Farm share program was the first Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) program in Arcata and has provided the community with local, organic produce for 28 years. In order to participate in Bayside Park Farm's Volunteer Program, volunteers make a 2.5 month commitment to working 6 hours a week in exchange for fresh vegetables and hands-on training in organic farming. In addition to general planting, pruning and harvesting skills, volunteers will learn other useful skills including sowing seeds in a propagation house, mending and preparing beds for planting, transplanting crops, growing crops from seed, growing and pruning tomato crops, and irrigation techniques. For the health and safety of city staff, volunteers and farm share participants, COVID-19 protocols must be followed when visiting Bayside Park Farm. Face coverings, physical distancing and other health and safety measures are required. Volunteer applications for the program's spring session are due Friday, March 26, summer session applications are due Tuesday, June 15, and applications for the fall season are due Sunday, Aug. 15. For more information on Bayside Park Farm's Volunteer Program, visit cityofarcata.org, email eservices@cityofarcata.org or call (707) 822-8184.

Taking the Hemingway out of Hemingway

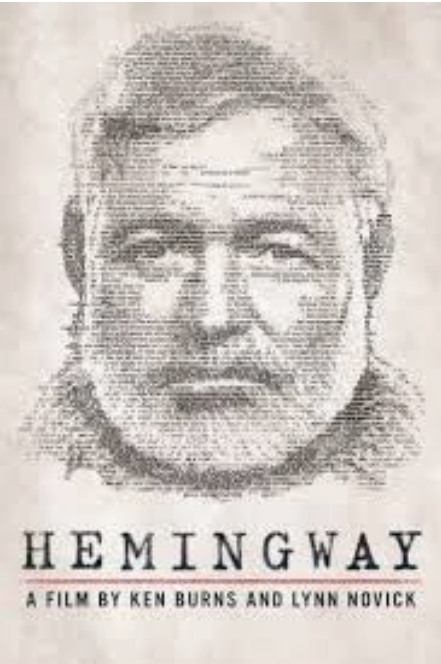
KEET-TV
HUMBOLDT – In partnership with the Humboldt County Library and KEET-TV, Word Humboldt invites you to participate in the special series, Taking the Hemingway Out of Hemingway: Poetry, Social Justice, and the 'Great American Novelist.'

The program includes three free online workshops led by Word Humboldt, a local spoken word group that creates an engaging and safe space for people to develop their literacy skills and focus on poetry as a tool for social justice.

These educational and fun workshops are open to everyone who is interested in learning how to write poetry using simple methods while simultaneously striving for equity and social justice in our community. This series seeks to ignite participants' love of language and expand their creativity.

The workshops are in support of the new PBS series by Ken Burns and Lynn Novick, *Hemingway*, which premieres April 5-7 at 8 p.m. on KEET-TV.

All workshops are hosted by the



Humboldt County Library and you can sign-up at forms.gle/m35PW-wEChpjVgQmf7.

Workshop topics

- Thursday, March 25, 6:30 p.m. - Using the "Found" and "Blackout" poetic methods, participants will create original work utilizing passages

by Hemingway and other authors. Prompts will be used for Inspiration.

- Thursday, April 1, 6:30 p.m. - Social Justice and Hemingway. This workshop is led by Bay Area poet and educator, Reggie Edmond. They will examine Hemingway's writings, and how this work is seen today. A discussion on creating equity and social justice using poetry will be included.

- Thursday, April 8, 6:30 p.m. - Poetry Slam, with Word Humboldt. Participants will have an opportunity to share their work, either material developed in the preceding workshops or other original material. This will be a great opportunity to network with other writers and gain input into the art of Spoken Word.

In addition to these events, a kit full of fun activities and writing prompts is available for free at all Humboldt County Library branches. The kit includes supplies and instruction on activities like blackout poetry, fill-in-the-blank poetry, and DIY magnetic poetry, in order to help writers and poets explore and ignite their creativity. To reserve a kit, call (707) 269-1915.

LEGAL NOTICES

**CITY OF ARCATA
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the City Council of the City of Arcata will conduct a Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 7, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. Consistent with Executive Orders N-25-20 and N-29-20 from the Executive Department of the State of California and the Humboldt County Public Health Officer's March 19, 2020, Shelter-in-Place Order, the City Council meeting location will not be physically open to the public and City Councilmembers will be teleconferencing into the meeting via Zoom Video Communications.

How to Observe the Meeting:
To maximize public safety while still maintaining transparency and public access, members of the public can observe the meeting on television on Access Humboldt Channel 10, by visiting www.cityofarcata.org and clicking on the See Live Meetings,

Agendas, and Archives button on the home page, or on the City's YouTube channel at https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCJYG-p9zDPdWwGIA0BtFX_A

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act provides extra Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding specifically targeted to perform activities related to COVID-19 response and recovery. The State Community Development Block Grant Coronavirus Response Round 2 and 3 (CDBG-CV2 & CV3) program has published a "Notice of Funding Availability" (NOFA), and eligible cities and counties may submit applications for CDBG-CV2 & CV3 funds under the NOFA.

Eligible activities paid for with State CDBG funds must meet one of the three National Objectives listed in CDBG Federal Statutes as follows: benefit to low-income households or persons (also called Low/Mod Benefit), slum and blight (addressing physical problems in specific neighborhoods) or meeting urgent community development

need (a need resulting from a state or federal declared disaster or posing unforeseen risks to health and safety). In addition, eligible activities must be used directly to prevent, prepare for or respond to COVID-19 and meet CDBG requirements as provided and directed by HCD in the published NOFA and outlined in their plan as follows:

- Public services to respond to COVID-19 impacts
- Public facility improvements to increase capacity for healthcare facilities and improve public facility safety
- Housing facilities for persons experiencing homelessness, including acquisition and rehabilitation
- Economic development to support needs of local businesses to retain and bring back jobs impacts by COVID-19

The Public Hearing is being held to discuss approving the submission of an application to the State for funding under the CDBG-CV2 & CV3 NOFA, and to solicit citizen input on activities to be included in the

application. The Community Development Department on behalf of the City of Arcata intends to apply for up to \$537,312 under the NOFA.

If you require special accommodations to participate in the public hearing, please contact the City Clerk at bdory@cityofarcata.org or by calling (707) 822-5953. The City Clerk will use their

best efforts to provide reasonable accommodations to provide as much accessibility as possible while maintaining public safety.

You may direct written comments to the City of Arcata, at 736 F Street, Arcata, CA 95521, or by e-mail to Jennifer.Dart@cityofarcata.org or by calling (707) 825-2112.

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3/24

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Northern Redwood Federal Central
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By: Dustin E. Owens, Attorney



Re-enter normal life with sweet Marvin at your side

It has officially been a year since Humboldt County went into lockdown. Our senior volunteers are beginning to return to the shelter as they complete their vaccinations.

It seems a little like the community is coming out of hibernation! Hoping that you are all well and that Spring will bring a slow return to whatever normal is going to be.

Today's featured pup is Marvin. You might remember Marvin as the scared and hairless dog that was found cowering in a parking lot in Eureka. He has been in a foster home (the one where he was met with a "Wellcome home Marvin" sign) for several months and has come such a long way since his parking lot time!

Marvin has been absolutely fabulous with the seven-year-old boy and the 10-month-old Jack Russell pup that live in the home. He loves his hang-out-on-the-couch time, even when Olive, the Jack Russell, is sitting on top of him!

Despite this love fest between dogs and boy, Marvin's foster has decided that they are not the perfect forever home for Marvin and so we are now putting him up for adoption.

Marvin's ideal home would include

another young human buddy and possibly another dog as well. It would probably not include cats. Though Marvin has been living with cats, his interest is a little too high for a permanent home with kitties.

Marvin has demonstrated excellent food and toy behavior, with no resource guarding of any kind, even if interrupted when he is eating or playing. He has been working on his obedience and leash skills and has learned a lot. Marvin will use his crate without objection and is good in the house.

We have noted that Marvin is quite sensitive and very attuned to people and their moods. Our trainer met him and declared him to be "awesome!" She also noted that Marvin is quite sensitive and very attuned to people and their moods.

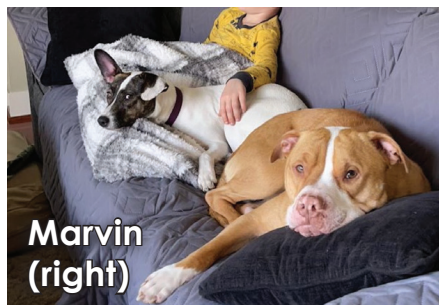
We would provide his new owner(s) with a session or two of training



DOG TOWN
Mara Segal



Marvin (on bottom)



Marvin (right)

to help everyone get to know each other and keep Marvin on the training trajectory that has been started.

Sweet Marvin is a young adult, one to two years old. He is neutered and current on his vaccinations. His pretty golden coat will benefit from good food and the occasional bath to keep his skin healthy, but he is a good sport about bathing.

If you have a child that has been looking for that devoted canine buddy, Marvin could be the dog for you! Please contact us at redwoodpalsrescue@gmail.com or leave a voicemail at (707) 633-8842.

NEW GRAD Jeffrey Bertotti of McKinleyville has earned a bachelor of arts, special education degree from Western Governors University (WGU). The online, nonprofit university has graduated more than 218,000 students from across the country since its inception in 1997.

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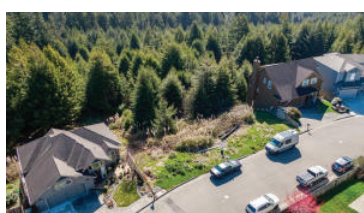


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Lower our Case Rate = Less new daily cases per 100K people

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